



118 Lion Blvd PO Box 187 Springdale UT 84767 * 435-772-3434 * fax 435-772-3952

**MINUTES OF THE SPRINGDALE TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING ON
MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2015 AT 4:00 P.M. AT SPRINGDALE TOWN HALL,
118 LION BLVD., SPRINGDALE, UTAH.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Stanley J. Smith, Councilmembers Mark Chambers, Adrian Player, Bill Weyher, Mike Alltucker

ALSO PRESENT: Town Manager Rick Wixom, DCD Tom Dansie and Town Clerk Darci Carlson recording. See attached sheet for citizens signed in.

Approval of agenda: Motion by Mark Chambers to approve the agenda as posted, seconded by Bill

Weyher:

Weyher: Aye

Chambers: Aye

Smith: Aye

Player: Aye

Alltucker: Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/Information/Non-action Items

General discussion & announcements: Mayor Smith announced he received a letter (Attachment #1) from tourists assisted by our EMTs commending their effort. Mayor Smith wanted to recognize their excellent work.

Ms. Carlson said the Joy to the World events calendar and forms were available for anyone interested.

Mr. Wixom said the Zion Canyon Visitors Bureau tear sheets were available at the Town Hall front desk or Springdale Post Office.

Action Items – Administrative

Consideration and possible action regarding the 2016 Tour of Utah: Mayor Smith noted the meeting was not a public hearing. He indicated that as of right now he would not take public comment.

Mr. Dansie said in the previous two meetings Council members have considered hosting the Tour of Utah. The Council was provided information from the Tour, in addition to a number of community comment letters expressing various viewpoints. The staff report gave a breakdown of the anticipated costs and resources available to defray those costs.

Mr. Alltucker said both the public and the Council voiced concerns about the impacts to the Town, particularly traffic and parking. He asked if more was known to better understand how these will be managed.

- Mr. Dansie said the Tour proposed the start line and team parking are on Lion Boulevard near Town Hall and the Community Center. For the bulk of the event SR-9 would not be impacted. Any traffic impact would occur a few minutes before the race when riders turn left off Lion Boulevard onto Zion Park Boulevard. The riders will be traveling at approximately 20-25 miles per hour and will clear quickly.
- A 15-20 minute road closure was anticipated. Once the riders pass and head into the Park the road will open up
- Mr. Dansie acknowledged the Town struggles with parking continually. The start of the race occurs early and will be before peak parking congestion. He reiterated most of the parking will be off of SR-9 and the spaces traditionally used by tourists will not be impacted by the race infrastructure.

Mr. Chambers asked if the Town received hard commitments from the hotels in Town for the lodging required.

- Mayor Smith said the lodging and food was guaranteed. Costs for the police officers and portable toilets remained.
- Mayor Smith had a conversation with Gary Webster from Congressman Stewart's office. Mr. Webster indicated they are supportive of the event. They had potential sponsors lined up so costs to the Town would be covered. In fact, there would likely be a windfall. The County also indicated a willingness to assist with sponsorships.

Mayor Smith said the Director of the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. was in favor of having the event as part of their centennial celebration.

Mayor Smith said Congressman Stewart had witnessed Springdale's transportation problems and understands shuttles need to be replaced. The Tour of Utah will help focus the needs of the Town and Park and make it easier to pass appropriations to fund these issues.

- Mayor Smith said the Tour will bring attention to the beauty of the Park but also to our existing needs. He said the promise of federal funding is not the reason to host the event. It also focuses on the healthy benefits of bicycling to children and adults.
- The impacts to the Town are not anticipated to be any greater than a normal busy day. The 60 rooms committed to the event would be full anyway.
- Mayor Smith said the Town didn't need the event to advertise. It was a once-in-a-lifetime, international event. Given the centennial he would like Springdale to be a part of that. The impacts will be minimal and mostly on Lion Boulevard.
- He expressed understanding as to why residents don't want the Tour. The business community was in support.
- The many community letters received would become part of the meeting minutes.

Councilman Weyher asked what the action would be from today's meeting. As he understood it, the Town would need to enter into a contract but the Council had not yet seen one. Needing only \$1,600 to cover police and toilets was not realistic given the impact to the Town and the staff required. Mr. Weyher felt the Town had not addressed all the Tour's requirements.

Mr. Wixom said the action being considered today was whether Springdale wanted to be a start city for one of the legs of the race. As is common with the RFP process, the first step is to respond. Their contract comes later. Mr. Wixom said Tori Trice, the Tour of Utah Event Director, indicated the contract will contain the same requirements as outlined in the RFP. The Tour is interested in Springdale and they want to be here.

Mayor Smith said Congressman Stewart gave assurance Springdale would not be on the hook for any costs incurred by the Tour of Utah. There would be no shortage of volunteers or sponsors, but it's hard to get a sponsor to commit when the Council has not. The Springdale business community has stepped up and will cover the food and lodging.

- Mr. Weyher added the Town should also apply for funds from the county.

Mr. Chambers acknowledged the Tour was a great event for Utah and understood how important cycling is to being healthy. However, he still had a number of concerns. To him it was all in the timing.

- Councilman Chambers said the Town has a reactionary culture and is not proactive in their decision making. We don't have a strategic plan in place so when something like this comes up there is a plan to guide us. He expressed frustration in the timing of when information is distributed before the Council is asked to make a decision. Mr. Chambers generally references the General Plan but could not find guidance.
- He said many people have responded to this issue both positively and negatively. Many believe the businesses are driving it but Mr. Chambers believed much of the Town's recent growth could be attributed to the Mighty 5 marketing campaign. He said visitation to the Park is up 17%. He did not believe now was the time to push for another event. The Town does not have the infrastructure in place. We are promoting a cycling event but it is not safe to ride a bike from the orchard to the big screen theater. The Town hasn't yet reviewed a design of the SR-9 reconstruction project and how the new bike lanes will work. We are not prepared.

- Mr. Chambers said if Washington County and state officials were so concerned, he felt a better statement was for Springdale to host the Tour when the infrastructure is in place. They need to help us get there.
- Mr. Chambers did not think 2016 was the right year for Springdale. Having just two weeks to decide is not enough time to understand what the Tour wants. We have sufficient marketing right now and there are infrastructure problems that need to be solved first. Most importantly the Town needs to address a long term strategy.

Mr. Player said the letter from Utah's Senators and Congressmen was dated in March. He asked if the Town was under the same pressure the Park was under. His decision would be based on the value to the Town. Mr. Player wanted to know if the Town was aware the Tour was discussing this event with the Park.

- Mayor Smith said he was aware the Tour was talking to the Park but wasn't privy to the discussions. We knew the Tour wanted to be here. Mayor Smith indicated it wasn't right for him to insert his opinion one way or the other during these conversations. Superintendent Bradybaugh made the announcement to the public about the Park's decision at the recent Town Council meeting.
- Mr. Player said he didn't want to feel pressure to succumb to the same pressure the Park experienced. He felt there would be more impact to the Town than we think. Councilman Player wanted more than verbal guarantees that the Town would be reimbursed so taxpayer money didn't fund the event. He said the Town doesn't need this.

Mr. Alltucker said he was cautiously supportive. The Tour of Utah was a world class, once-in-a-lifetime event. He felt the Town should seize the opportunity.

- Mr. Alltucker said he looked to the General Plan for guidance. It indicates the Town should encourage a rich array of activities, promote cycling and healthy lifestyles and encourage tourist spending through festivals and events.
- Supporting this event will only strengthen relationships with the Park, our Congressional delegation, our Legislature and cycling groups. It will provide a lot of political impact. The Tour should create a positive cash flow for the Town.
- Mr. Alltucker acknowledged traffic and parking impacts are real but they can be mitigated. The Tour provides an opportunity for ancillary events and is doable. Although the Town has not seen the fine print, Mr. Alltucker said the Town can approve the event pending review of the contract.

Mr. Chambers said those points are in the General Plan however there are other things in the General Plan which should occur first such as (9.1.4) construction of a bike lane along SR-9, (9.1.3) connect the length of the Town with continuous sidewalks, (9.1.5) provide a connecting trail system within Town, along the Virgin River, and through the lower foothills with access from SR-9. The Tour of Utah is an event that fits with the Town of Springdale but the timing is bad. When bicyclists come they should have a safe experience. At this point we can't provide that.

- Mayor Smith said that one of the reasons it was happening in 2016 was because of the centennial. Mr. Chambers asked why it had to be this National Park. Why not Bryce or Arches? Mayor Smith answered Zion was the Park they chose. Mr. Chambers said he did not hear anyone discuss they wanted Springdale as the host city for the centennial until two weeks ago. If this was the case, the dialogue should have come much earlier so we had involvement.
- Mayor Smith said the centennial dialogue happens with the National Park Service. Springdale is not part of these discussions. Mr. Chambers countered if they wanted it here they should have been dialoguing with us earlier.

Motion made by Mark Chambers to deny the Tour of Utah for the 2016 dates; seconded by Adrian Player.

Weyher: Aye

Chambers: Aye

Smith: No

Player: Aye

Alltucker: No

Motion passed.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn at 4:37pm by Mark Chambers: seconded by Bill Weyher:

Weyher: Aye

Chambers: Aye

Smith: Aye

Player: Aye

Alltucker: Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

Darci Carlson

Darci Carlson, Town Clerk

APPROVED: _____

Steve Smith

DATE: _____

11/10/15



TOWN OF SPRINGDALE

PO Box 187 118 Lion Blvd Springdale UT 84767

ATTENDANCE RECORD

Town Council Please sign

Meeting of 10/26/2015 on Utah Bicycle Event

If you'd like to be included on our great e-notice list, please give us your email address. That's the only reason you need to provide that information. Your address will never be sold, though we may have to provide it as public information. If you have provided the information before, you don't need to add it again.

Robert Ford
name
Nina Rodriguez
name
Marcel Rodriguez
name
Zach Gustafson
name
Gene Gustafson
name
Mary Jane Wayher
name
Donna Holt
name
Don Hazel
name
Marie McLeod
name
Craig Shanklin (SUBA)
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Louis (USA CO SPORTS)
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NATE WELLS
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Matt Rayner
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Randy & Peggy Taylor
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Kory & Jean Mabbett
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email (not required)

email (not required)

██████████
██████████ KY 410██
October 19, 2015

Fire Chief
Rockville/Springdale Fire Protection District
P.O. Box 159
Springdale, UT 84767

RECEIVED

OCT 23 2015

TOWN OF SPRINGDALE

Dear Chief:

By _____

This is to commend the two EMTs who attended to me during a recent medical incident while my husband and I were on a Caravan Bus Tour at Zion National Park. Due to difficulty breathing, high blood pressure and pressure in my chest, my husband and the tour director called for EMTs to come to Zion National Park Lodge about 3:30a.m. the morning of October 14.

I can't say enough about the friendliness, professionalism and skills of the 2 EMT's who came, treated me on the scene, and then transported me (and my husband and our 4 pieces of luggage!!!) -- in the middle of the night no less -- almost 1.5 hrs. away to the Dixie Regional Medical Center in St. George.

Unfortunately, I was so out of it I did not get either of their names, but I am sure you can determine whom I am talking about. Both of them are a credit to their profession, a credit to Springdale/Zion, and a huge reassurance to tourists everywhere in the Zion Canyon area.

Please share this letter with them and let them know how very much we appreciate all they did for us -- both professionally, but also personally by reassuring us, and even suggesting a way to arrange for transportation to Las Vegas once released from the hospital so we could begin our journey back home.

All turned out well, and we are now happily back home in Kentucky. Again, GREAT JOB by your EMTs!!!!

Sincerely,

Kathy Payne
Kathy (and Butch) Payne

✓ cc: Mayor Stan Smith
Springdale Town Offices
118 Lion Blvd.
Springdale, UT 84767

Town of Springdale

From: Lisa Zumpft [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, October 25, 2015 11:15 PM
To: bweyher@infowest.com; mayor@infowest.com; aplayer@springdaletown.com; mchambers@springdaletown.com; 'Adrian Player'; bweyher@springdaletown.com; ssmith@infowest.com; Alltucker, Mike
Cc: 'Springdale Town Clerk'; dcd@infowest.com
Subject: Tour Utah
Attachments: An Open Letter to Utah Travel Council.pdf

Springdale Town Council
October 25, 2015
Re: Tour of Utah, Springdale as start city

I am writing with my concerns regarding the consideration of Springdale being the starting city for the Tour of Utah in August 2016. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend the previous meeting which included this topic. Therefore I can only rely on the packet material, the draft minutes, some comments sent to me by Springdale residents, and some internet searching that I have done.

I note from the Staff memo of October 8, that in 2012, the Town Council reviewed this topic and chose to not consider hosting at that time. The meeting took place on September 12, 2012. All of the Council members agreed that this was not the right event for our town. Their concerns back then are still legitimate today. We are in worse shape now than we were three years ago.

In the October 8 Staff memo, it is suggested that the Town parades and Butch Cassidy run cause more traffic issues than this event would cause. Neither of the parades nor the run bring in thousands of people nor are they held during the busiest time of year. The Memo also suggested that parking spots would not be a problem as most of the parking would be off the main street. How can that be? Are we going to tell observers of the race that they have to park in designated places so other tourist can park on the street?

I have several questions about this event that were not addressed in the memo:

What is the route?

Where does it start and finish?

How many observers are expected to be at the starting line?

How does the "rolling road closure" prevent traffic backup?

Where will the staging areas be located?

I ask that you reread Betina Lindsey's letter from this past Spring (see attached.) Her points about advertising the Park and Springdale and about Volunteers are more valid than even six months ago. At this point, we do not need any more events to bring in tourists during one of our busiest times of year nor any other time for that matter. We do not need any more advertising for our Town.

We have forgotten that our national parks are an important place to allow for solitude and reflection. Yes, bicycling can be just that for those who enjoy this activity. A racing event does not promote this for either the racers or the observers. And yes, biking is a fantastic way of supporting good health practices. This event will not really be doing that as our citizens in Springdale are already generally in better health than most other places in the country due to our outdoor lifestyle. We do not need an outside organizer to patronize us with this event about healthy living practices.

The staff report states that the Town will have some financial obligations. Please reread the October 8 Staff Memo (Pages pages 15 to 21 of the pdf file). The obligations of a Host town are more significant than touched on in both Staff Memos (October 8 and October 22) and include Police Services (including security services), Public Works and Road Services, Permit Services (including alcohol permits), EMT/EMS Services, Residential/Business Notices, Portable Toilets, Waste Management, Recycling Program, and Hospitality. The Host town is also obligated to put up hotel rooms and meals for crews, teams, and volunteers. This Tour is owned by Utah Cycling Partnerships which is part of Larry H Miller companies who own companies including car dealerships, Utah Jazz, megaplex theaters and more (see <http://www.lhm.com/companies> for the full list.) The staff report states that this event is run by Medalist Sprits which is an international, full-service, sports management and production company. The Tour of Utah is a professional biking event. With such heavy hitters supporting this event I do not believe that Springdale should be obligated in any way for anything to a business that will be making money on this event.

The staff report states that the Tour would require Staff and volunteer time. The Town Council has been concerned about Staff time being spent on events such as the Music Festival, Butch Cassidy, etc. Why would this be any different? Again please look at Betina's letter. Springdale is already so short of volunteers who are already burned out that asking them to do another event would continue to drain this resource. The volunteers who were mentioned by name in the Staff memo are business owners and do not live in Springdale. It seems that when business owners ask for something they get what they want but when residents ask too often they seem to be ignored. Events such as this further diminish the quality of life for its residents.

Why should our businesses be asked to put up hotel rooms or meals during a time when rooms are at a premium and the hotels are nearly full?

The staff report suggests that there will be only a 15 minute road closure. The disruption to traffic will be longer than this. What about the time to set it up and take it down? I imagine this will take much more time. We have only one road through town. Even for a "15 minute" closure the potential for the road to backup to the Town entrance is very high.

According to the staff report we will get even more unwanted advertising for Springdale and Zion. Until the Park can get a handle on its "capacity" and the Town can improve its road infrastructure along with completing the road reconstruction next year, the Council should not be entertaining hosting this event.

Road safety - this is a concern not only for all bikers but also apparently for this event: <http://www.cyclingnews.com/news/riders-and-managers-question-moto-safety-after-recent-incidents/>. Would we want to be in the news if there is concerns that bikers would additionally be at risk of injury?

The final paragraph of the Staff memo suggests that the only way we can get support on projects and issues for the Town is by giving in to local, state and federal elected officials. Up to this point we have been successful in getting grants and other funding without needing to pander to anyone. Perhaps I am naïve, but if they care about our town, they will not use coercion when we ask for support of infrastructure building.

Endorsement by our United States Legislators - The letter included in the packet material is giving the wrong impression about the use of our National Parks. None of these men spend much if time in Southern Utah. They do not support our National Parks and yet they want us to allow them to be exploited by profit making businesses. I find this hypocritical and not supportive of the use of our National Parks.

This event will do nothing to benefit our Town either the residents or the businesses. I request that you not continue perusing any involvement in the Tour of Utah.

Sincerely,

Lisa Zumpft

An Open Letter to:

Utah Travel Council, Staff, Board, Utah State Legislature, Utah Governor Gary Herbert and Washington County Commissioners, Washington County Visitors Bureau.

I live in Springdale, Utah the gateway community to Zion National Park. I have lived and worked here for 15 years. The population of Springdale is about 548 people and neighboring Rockville is 250...including elderly, youth and children. A cordial population that you and 3.6 million visitors take for granted. We are the greeting staff to USA and international travelers.

The reported triumph on the state media services of the 30% rise in visitation to Zion National Park ignores the Back-Story of what is truly going on here. We have become an ant hill. This is a narrow canyon with a two lane road. There is only one way in and one way out.

In your meetings have you ever discussed the costs of such impactful visitation numbers beyond the chancing of coins in business, county and state coffers? Have you discussed the costs to local residents, service workers and National Park employees as well as conservation of Zion, a National Treasure?

Allow me to tell you some of those costs. You might say we are bringing jobs, but what kind of jobs? The medium income in Washington County, Utah is about \$21,000 a year....unlike the larger Park City of Wasatch County which is about \$80,000 over all income. Every time the legislature makes a TRT Room tax hike for the tourists (now over 12%) the bulk of this money is divided through the state to maintain travel council and visitor bureau endeavors. Well and good. However, the pressure of extreme tourism to infrastructure of small town Springdale is costly. We need funds here for improved infrastructure, not more advertising or international promotion junkets for travel council employees.

It is difficult to walk or even drive across SR 9 when there is a two mile road back-up to the entrance gate to Zion. Again, there is just a one two lane road here. We need stop signs...crosswalks, more sidewalks and bike lanes. The RV traffic is perilous because the town, the tunnels, the park cannot accommodate it. In March on just one Saturday we had 2400 hundred run the half marathon from Virgin to the Park Entrance. The fee to the runners was \$95.00. Times \$95 by 2600. After permits...Rockville received from the Vacation Races Company, just \$1000 as thanks to the local volunteers.

Where does the man power and monies come from to support these events? Not from the promoters or state legislature and travel council, but from the local tax paying land owners, stretched small town coffers, local volunteer residents and local business owners. Who puts on the not-profit Earth-Day, music festivals, Fourth of July & St. Patrick Day Parade or Z-Art events? The goodwill of Rotary & Lions Club fundraisers, the state Humanities Council and unpaid volunteers. We now have three franchise hotels in Springdale, La Quinta, Hampton Inn and Holiday Inn Express...unfortunately; their community involvement ends with the corporate responsibility to their investors.

This year, due to national politics, the Zion National Park (The Golden Goose) is understaffed and a dollar short because their budget funding comes from the Federal Government and those wheels move slowly. Recently, because of the ad blitzes, the Zion Park employees (guardians of the natural world ...some of who are volunteers) are stretched to exhaustion on a daily basis. Those who work on the East side of the park may end up adding one and half hours to their work drive time because of the daily tunnel traffic. It has become Disneyland without the rides and efficient crowd control. The National Park does it best with its limited funding. Again, it is a monumental effort just to keep all the visitors on the designated trails. The Narrows Hikes (get a hepatitis shot before you go) and the more dangerous Angels Landing hikes are becoming as busy as Madison Avenue at rush hour.

Think trash and river sewage, it is our new reality in the canyon!

Many local citizens and park employees would like to request that you stop your ad blitzes which must cost thousands, if not millions. Please, please direct some of that money toward funding the necessary and oft time deficient PTI shuttle system. This system is so necessary, but totally overwhelmed. It is short of buses and drivers. The present drivers have been driving 10 to 11 hours with few breaks. Outside town parking was figured out in Telluride Colorado years ago. The town shuttle could be extended to a parking lot west of Rockville to relieve the traffic on SR9 and in Springdale proper.

What about our Paramedic and Fire Protection services which basically give free assistance to the tourists any day at any time? Up until last year, Rockville/Springdale Fire Protection was volunteer. This year out of desperation and fairness to the volunteers...our Fire Protection tax was doubled to provide for wages and equipment that will meet state codes.

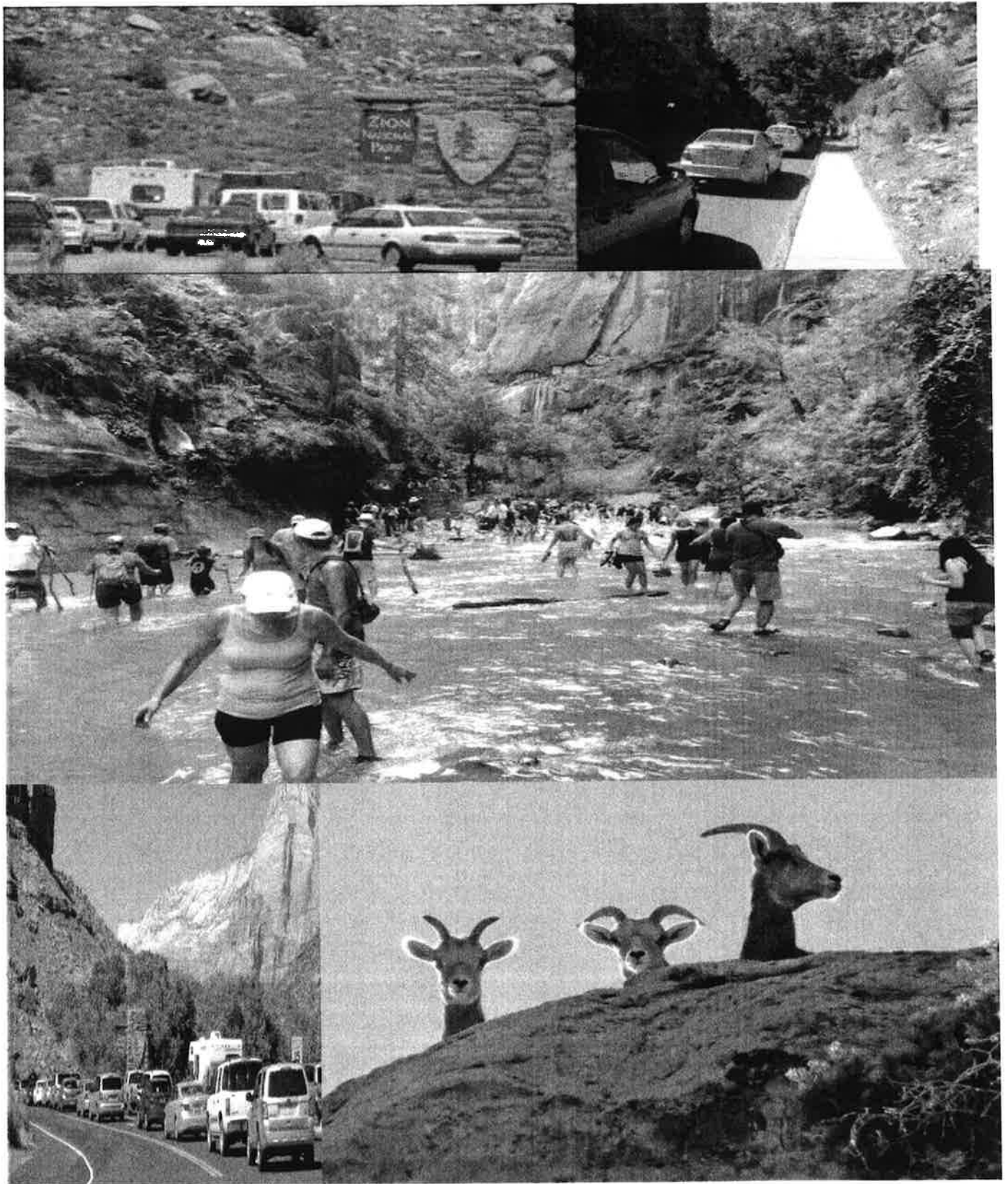
We are fortunate to have excellent medical staff in our one room trailer clinic. But because the clinic runs on a shoe string (It isn't profitable enough for a Health Corp. to keep it going.) The medical staff must work part time in Salt Lake and St. George in order to keep the clinic open during tourist season.

Again, could the legislature pass funding for our town's antiquated sewer system which backs up in hotel rooms and private residences? How many toilet flushes and showers of 3.6 million tourists can the Virgin River accommodate? Springdale has 3 full time overwhelmed maintenance workers. We need a full time maintenance worker just to put out recycle bins, pick up the daily trash and empty sand cigarette holders at shuttle stops. Not everyone coming to the canyon respects nature, but again resident volunteers pick up trash in our parks and in the river for the very reason they chose to live here....a respect and love of the uncontaminated natural world.

Do any of you work for free? Our Town Planning Commission and Town Council do. And would you work for free to assist 3.6 million visitors to your home yearly. Would you even work cleaning hotel rooms here? There is always a shortage of housekeeping staff. How about working as a park employee full-time with a part time seasonal status with no health care or retirement benefits. Or perhaps being a restaurant server at \$2.50 an hour where your income is chicken today and feathers tomorrow. Remember, there is a fine line between being business friendly and exploitation. Maybe it is time to raise the minimum wage in Utah. I hear the legislature is thinking of raising the governor's salary.

I moved here in 1998. My property taxes were \$700 and now in 2015 my Washington County taxes are up to \$1800....and probably climbing. It seems Zion is the goose that lays the golden egg for many of you. But the geese are leaving from the onslaught which is taking its toll on park wildlife...fewer birds, fewer foxes, fewer everything but more helicopter noise from daily air tours. Can we love Zion too much? Can we exploit Zion too much? Yes, unwittingly your promotions are causing us to pave paradise and put in a parking lot....lots of lots.

Respectfully, Betina Lindsey- Springdale Resident 



"We can run but we can't hidell! Why don't they thin their own dam herds?"

Town of Springdale

From: Michael Plyler <Michael.Plyler@springdale.org>
Sent: Sunday, October 25, 2015 3:39 PM
To: Springdale Town Clerk; bweyher@infowest.com; mayor@infowest.com; dcd@infowest.com; aplayer@springdaletown.com; mchambers@springdaletown.com; Adrian Player; bweyher@springdaletown.com; ssmith@infowest.com
Subject: RE: TOUR OF UTAH 2016

To: Mayor and Town Council Members

From: Michael Plyler

RE: Tour of Utah 2016

October 25, 2015

Dear Town Council,

I would very much like this letter to be read aloud in the special meeting of October 26.

The DCD has released two memorandi touting the benefits of the Tour of Utah 2016. Naturally, most or all of these benefits pertain to the business community in Springdale. I would like to speak for the majority of the residents and property owners in the Town who are not business owners.

PARKING

In his Memo of October 6 the DCD asserts that he and the race organizers have found off-street parking for the 400 vehicles (a number revealed in the Special Council Meeting of October 8) associated with the staging of this event. If there currently exists space for 400 vehicles to park off State Route 9 why are we not currently utilizing these spaces to alleviate the daily mess that is parking in Springdale every day of the tourist season? The congestion a UDOT official at this same meeting referred to as the "steel canyon." If the response is we have identified this additional parking as a temporary situation to accommodate this event, why the preferential treatment for a one-day event when we have a chronic problem most days?

In perhaps the most outrageously ludicrous assertion I have seen in a memo released by a town official in Springdale, the DCD states in his Memo of October 22 that by staging this event and creating a parking

nightmare of even greater magnitude than we see on a regular basis, this will spur regional, state, and federal officials to finally help us with this problem. Really? So, the Town's plan to deal with the considerable parking, congestion, and safety issues generated by the increase of tourist influx over the last two years is to stage a series of events that stretch our carrying capacity to or over its limits in the hopes outside officials will finally take notice and help us out? The DCD goes on to state this self-created nightmare will give us the opening to begin talks with outside officials. So the only way we have to open these discussions is to continue to stage events that add to the existing problem?

BENEFITS

Apparently all the benefits that will accrue to the lodging and restaurant owners of the town will emanate from our providing 100 free room nights, 60 of which will be given the night before the event. I assume that the thinking is we give away 60 rooms in the expectation that the town will sell out all other rooms to accommodate the influx created by the event. There are approximately 1,000 rooms (give or take) in Springdale. If the owners give away 60 rooms then the occupancy rate that night will be 94%. I have spoken to an employee at one lodging property who estimates that on that same calendar night this year occupancy was at 95%. This seems to indicate that by giving away 60 rooms with all else being equal that there may in fact be a net loss rather than the hoped for windfall.

This begs the bigger question of why is the Town negotiating from a position of weakness rather than strength? The race organizers approached the Town as far back as 2012. They came to us. We have something they very much want. We have Zion Canyon and the gateway to Zion National Park. If they want to be here so badly why are we giving them anything? Their pat answer is exposure and publicity. We need more publicity to encourage more growth of tourism like we need hotter days in July. Before we decide we need to encourage more people to come here we need to create an infrastructure to deal with the overload that already exists.

However, even if we think we want to stage this event, has there been any discussion on the part of the council in regards to making a counter offer? 50 room nights instead of 100? They pay the town's staff time instead of getting it for nothing? The Town required our home grown Music Festival organizers to pay \$8,000 to cover Town staff time. Why such preferential treatment with regards to a for-profit enterprise? I am struck by the audacity of a for-profit business demanding that other business owners provide their goods and services for free. Why are we jumping at their take-it-or-leave-it offer? Is it really the end of the world or the end of profits for the 2016 season if the Town makes a counter offer that is rejected and the Tour of Utah isn't staged here? Remember, they came to us. If the Council wants to get the Town a bad deal, at least have the backbone to negotiate the best bad deal you can get.

Finally, as a non-business owner who will see none of the cash fill my pockets, this is a bad deal. Just more congestion and parking nightmares and eyesores at a time when the town can probably generate the same or close to the same revenue without the overburden of this big event or giving anything anyway. For myself and many others it will just be another day added to an ever-increasing number of days to hunker down and avoid

the streets of what used to be my small, charming village. That village is now gone forever and events like this only serve to bury it even deeper.

Respectfully,

Michael Plyler

Teach InfoWest Spam Trap if this mail is spam:

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REMEMBER: Never give out your account information, password, or other personal information over e-mail.

To: Mayor and Town Council Members
From: Louise Excell
RE: Tour of Utah 2016
Date: October 23, 2015

Please accept the following comments relating to the Tour of Utah agenda item on your October 26, 2015 special meeting agenda:

It is commendable that members of the local business community have volunteered to shoulder the major financial and volunteer burden for the Tour of Utah race next August; however, while their generosity may offer some gains for their respective businesses, the overall effects of such an event in the middle of Springdale's busiest season will do nothing to benefit the residents of Springdale, the reputation of Springdale, or the visitor experience for the thousands of tourists who will be in Zion Canyon during this proposed event.

If this season has done nothing else, it has sent a loud and clear message that Springdale is too crowded at peak tourist times. Traffic is congested and dangerous; at times, left-turns onto SR-9 from nearly any place in town are nearly impossible, and when they are possible, they are risky. Parking has been nightmarish at best; oversized vehicles park on SR-9, and their extra-wide stance makes it necessary that they straddle the traffic lanes, forcing motorists to crowd oncoming traffic. Pedestrians dart between large vehicles to cross the highway in spite of poor visibility. And now you are considering hosting an event right on SR-9 that will hugely compound the traffic and parking problems?

The people who live here and work here are the ones who will suffer most. Our orderly commercial district has become a hazard; getting to the post office, the grocery store, the bank is an ordeal. And it's not just us locals. The tourists who come here will have a diminished experience as well during the cycling event.

I have to ask why Springdale's elected representatives think some extra, totally unnecessary, publicity and a few more tax dollars in the coffers are worth the disruption grief this cyclist race will cause its citizens and its guests? Mr. Dansie rightly states in his staff report that Springdale does not need the media exposure; there is no doubt that Springdale and Zion are on the map.

The staff report also suggests that this event will help to focus the attention of county, state, and federal elected officials on Springdale's traffic problems. I find that wild assertion to be totally ludicrous. If there is any assistance to be had from the county, the state, or federal officials, it is there without this race. In fact, if Springdale declines the invitation to host the event, citing its traffic issues as the reason, wouldn't that be a better, more compelling argument for aid?

As for the healthy lifestyle/ bicycle-friendly arguments, aren't they unnecessary as well? Springdale is already bike-friendly and working towards being pedestrian-friendly too. Note the large number of cycle tours that visit Springdale every year and the bustling cycle-renting businesses in town. We really don't have to prove anything to anyone.

The staff report does not anticipate a great deal of staff time for this event, but given the Town's recent belly-aching about the use of town staff for other recreational events like the music festival, why would it even be considering any use of staff at all for this undesirable event?

I urge you to think about what you are doing here. Nearly every decision you have made in the past three years has been to benefit business at the expense of community. Maybe this is the time to take a position that supports the people who are here to stay, not just those who come to cash in.

Thank you in advance for your careful deliberation.

Louise Excell

1700 Zion Park Blvd

Box 366

Springdale, UT 84767

Darci Carlson

From: Rick Wixom <rwixom@infowest.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 25, 2015 10:17 PM
To: 'Adrian Player (springdaletown.com)'; 'Bill Weyher'; 'Mark Chambers (springdaletown.com)'; 'Mike Alltucker'; 'Stan Smith (springdaletown.com)'
Cc: Tom Dansie; Darci Carlson
Subject: FW: Tour of Utah comment for Council Special Meeting Oct 26, 2015

Council members,

Below is a comment regarding the Tour of Utah discussion tomorrow.

Thanks,
Rick

From: Megan [mailto:████████████████████]
Sent: Sunday, October 25, 2015 8:53 PM
To: rwixom@infowest.com
Subject: Tour of Utah comment for Council Special Meeting Oct 26, 2015

Springdale Council--

Sorry, we're full! What happens in Springdale doesn't stay in Springdale, it spills over into Rockville. It gets to Springdale through Rockville and it leaves Springdale through Rockville. Have you noticed that Springdale is full in August? So is Rockville! M. Honer-Orton

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Darci Carlson

From: glay homer ~~marcusglay_1989@yahoo.com~~
Sent: Saturday, October 24, 2015 12:46 PM
To: dcarlson@springdaletown.com
Subject: Tour of Utah

Town of Springdale,

I want to state that I am in favor of having the Tour of Utah in the town of Springdale. I believe it would be a very positive event for Springdale and Southern Utah. It would support and promote bicycling in a positive way. I have attended the Tour of Utah in the past and it is a quality event that everyone would enjoy and be proud of. I would also be willing to volunteer in any capacity to help make this event function in the best possible way. I believe the impact on tourism in the town of Springdale would be very positive. I also believe the impact on the town itself and its residents would be positive without having a negative environmental impact. Again, I am in support of having the Tour of Utah bike race in Springdale.

Sincerely,
Marcus Homer

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Darci Carlson

From: Jeff Adamson jeff.adamson@washk12.org
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2015 12:38 PM
To: dcarlson@springdaletown.com
Subject: Tour Of Utah

I am writing to you about the positive effects, that I feel your town will receive by supporting the Tour Of Utah. I hope that you will take this opportunity to have the tour come through the great city of Springdale, Utah

Several positive effects on your great town.

- Boosting the economy.
- Fostering community pride.
- teaching new things
- Strengthening relationships
- Value in organizing effort

Just to mention a few. I would be willing and honored if I could help volunteer in the efforts to support and help in the success of this event.

Thanks
Jeff Adamson

--
Important notice my email has been changed my new email is jeff.adamson@washk12.org

Jeff Adamson
Hurricane High
Health/Driver Ed/Computers

243 West Tiger Blvd
435-635-3280
435-638-9182



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Darci Carlson

From: Aaron Esplin [mailto:aesplin@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2015 12:57 PM
To: dcarlson@springdaletown.com
Subject: Support for The Tour of Utah

To Whom it may concern:

I am writing to show my support for bringing the Tour of Utah to the town of Springdale. I am a avid cyclist and a local resident who feels this event would be very beneficial to our economy and to the people of southern Utah. The tour has become one of the nations top cycling events that many cycling magazines other cycling media outlets recognize and highlight this event to their audiences.

I understand that bringing in such events to smaller communities that there is concern over finding enough volunteers to help support it. I myself would definitely be willing to volunteer my time to help with this event and know of many friends and family members who would join in with helping with the event as well.

I have attended the tour a couple of times now when it was held in Cedar City and saw the overwhelming support and excitement that it brought to that town and feel that it would do the same for Springdale. I can't think of a more perfect backdrop to begin this race than our Zion National Park.

Thank you for your time and consideration in bringing this wonderful event to our communities.

Sincerely,
Aaron Esplin

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Town of Springdale

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2015 2:57 PM
To: springdale@infowest.com
Subject: 2016 Tour of Utah bike event comments

10/26/15

Dear town clerk, mayor and council

As a long time resident and cyclist in Rockville, I am vehemently opposed to allowing the 2016 Tour of Utah bicycle event to be held through Rockville, Springdale and Zion National park in it's current form. I wish that this letter be read aloud into the formal record of the Oct 26th special meeting.

The events continues a worrisome trend of ever spiraling attendance and traffic snarls. Rockville has nothing to gain from this besides delays, pollution from idling cars awaiting passage, and more noise and dust from diverted traffic onto our secondary roads. As a town, we gain zero benefit from events like this but stand to suffer environmental degradation by sheer volume of cars and people. Our crumbling infrastructure can neither sustain or support this ever increasing traffic load.

The closure of Zion National Park to accommodate this is very troubling. It sets a dangerous precedent that any large, for profit promoter will be eager to duplicate. Soon Zion could be closed for all sorts of events. When will the limits of a delicate desert environment be respected rather than sold off to the highest bidder?

Sincerely,

Barry Sochat

[REDACTED]
PO Box 630218
Rockville, UT 84763

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Darci Carlson

From: Annette Esplin (HIS) <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2015 6:34 PM
To: dcarlson@springdaletown.com
Subject: Bike race

To whom it may concern,

As an educator as well as a town supporter of Springdale, LaVerkin, and Hurricane I would like to just say I am in support of bringing the bike race here. I would love to see us get involved and provide a once in a life time opportunity to our area. Please vote it in!!! I would volunteer my time as well to help and I know many others would as well! Thank you for your time!

Annette Esplin

--

Please note that my address has been changed to:
[REDACTED]

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